

THIRTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
MANAGERS  
OF THE  
STATE LUNATIC ASYLUM,  
AT  
UTICA.

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Transmitted to the Legislature, February 9, 1856.

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# State of New-York.

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No. 120.

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IN ASSEMBLY, FEB. 9, 1856.

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## THIRTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT

Of the Managers of the State Lunatic Asylum.

UTICA, *February 9, 1856.*

To the Hon. ORVILLE ROBINSON,

*Speaker of the Assembly:*

SIR—Herewith is submitted the annual report of the Managers of the State Lunatic Asylum.

Respectfully yours,

CHAS. A. MANN,  
SILAS D. CHILDS,  
S. NEWTON DEXTER,  
CHRISTOPHER MORGAN,  
E. A. GRAHAM,  
DANIEL P. BISSELL,  
J. A. SPENCER,  
HOWARD TOWNSEND.



## OFFICERS OF THE ASYLM.

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### *Managers.*

CHARLES A. MANN, Utica.  
SILAS D. CHILDS,        "  
E. A. GRAHAM,        "  
S. N. DEXTER, Whitesboro.  
CHRISTOPHER MORGAN, Auburn.  
D. P. BISSELL, M. D., Utica.  
HOWARD TOWNSEND, M. D., Albany.  
JOSHUA A. SPENCER, Utica.

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### *Resident Officers.*

JOHN P. GRAY, M. D., Superintendent and Physician.  
E. H. VAN DEUSEN, M. D., First Assistant Physician.  
JOHN B. CHAPIN, M. D., Second Assistant Physician.  
LOUIS A. TOURTELLOT, M. D., Third Assistant Physician.  
HORATIO N. DRYER, Steward.

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EDMUND A. WETMORE, Treasurer, Utica.

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# THIRTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT Of the Managers of the State Lunatic Asylum, for the year ending November 30, 1855.

The Managers of the New-York State Lunatic Asylum respectfully submit the following

## REPORT:

The institution under our management has, during the past year, continued in successful operation, and has conferred on the afflicted subjects of its care as great benefit as during any previous year of its existence.

We herewith submit to the Legislature the annual report required by law to be made to us by the superintendent, which shows the operations and results of the Asylum during the year. From this report it will be seen that 725 patients have, in the course of the year, been under treatment, and that 128 were discharged recovered, 15 improved, 79 unimproved, 16 not insane, and 32 died, leaving in the institution at the close of the year 455 patients.

It also appears that the daily average under treatment has been 27 above the proper capacity of the house, and that 167 applicants were refused admission for the want of room, and that 34 unimproved patients were discharged to make room for recent cases.

Since the Asylum was opened on the 16th of January, 1843, forty-five hundred and eighty-eight patients have been received, 1,917 of whom have been discharged recovered, 710 improved, 947 unimproved, and 543 have died.

Dr. Louis A. Tourtellot was appointed third assistant physician in August last; at the same time Horatio N. Dryer was ap-

pointed steward, in the place of H. B. Bartlett, who, with Mrs. Bartlett, the matron, resigned August 1.

The superintendent and his assistants have discharged the responsibilities and great labor necessarily devolving on them, in the daily care and conduct of the Asylum, with a fidelity and ability that entitles them to the approval of the Board. No one who has not had some practical knowledge of the care and constant watchfulness required in the treatment of from 400 to 500 insane persons, collected from all parts of the State, can readily appreciate how great the labor, difficulties and responsibility are.

We also herewith submit the annual report of the treasurer of the Asylum, giving the receipts and payments on account of the institution during the year. From this it will appear that the receipts from the various counties that send a portion of their insane poor to the Asylum, and from other patients, have been adequate to defraying the ordinary current expenses of attendants and support for the year. The high price of all kinds of provisions during the year, has rendered it necessary to practice a system of rigid economy in the daily expenditures to make the receipts for board of patients equal the cost of their support. The productions of the garden and farm, which are yearly increasing under improved cultivation, have materially aided in the support of the institution. The purchase of additional land for farming purposes would be essentially beneficial, as very much of the labor required in its cultivation could be advantageously performed by the patients.

In our last annual report we called the attention of the Legislature, to the necessity and importance of providing some more suitable and secure place than this Asylum, for the keeping and treatment of insane convicts from the State prisons. By the act of 13th May, 1846, the officers of the State prisons, were authorised to send to the State asylum insane prisoners under their charge. Pursuant to that act, sixty-eight insane convicts from the prisons have been sent to this Asylum, twenty of whom yet remain here. They are generally of a violent and dangerous

class, and unfit associates for those with whom we are obliged to place them. On the 13th of April, 1855, a law was passed, requiring the Inspectors of the prisons, to make necessary and suitable provision, in one of the State prisons, for the safe keeping and proper care of all insane convicts then in the State Lunatic asylum, and for all such prisoners as should thereafter become so far insane, as to render them improper subjects of prison discipline. The Inspectors of the prison have not been able, as we are informed, to carry into effect the requirements of the act of 13th April, 1855, for the want of the requisite means to do so. The insane convicts that were in the Asylum at the date of our last annual report, therefore, still remain; although no new patients of that class have been or could be sent to us under that law during the year. We trust that the Inspectors will be enabled to carry into effect the requirements of the act of 13th April, 1855, at the earliest period practicable.

By reference to our former reports it will be seen, that in the spring of 1853, we commenced, as authorised by law, the execution of a plan for warming the entire house by steam, and of effecting in connection with it, a more perfect and complete system of ventilation. The plan adopted was, in some respects an untried one, and when it was to be adapted to an institution already erected, it was necessarily an expensive one, and difficult of execution. It has been completed for the half of the house appropriated to female patients, and the centre building occupied for offices, and by the resident officers of the Asylum.

The plan required the erection of a new building, 130 by 40 feet, two stories high, for steam boilers, engine, fan and wash rooms, the second story being used for ironing and drying rooms; also the procuring of two steam boilers, 8 by 26 feet; the erection of a chimney 100 feet high for the steam boilers; the construction of a fan for forcing the air through the house; the construction of pipe-chambers through nearly the entire length of the buildings, and of numerous flues in the partition brick walls, for the admission of warm, and the escape of foul air.

We refer to our last annual report for a more full description of the plan for warming and ventilating, and of the work that has been executed in carrying it out.

The part of the house appropriated to the male patients is yet insufficiently warmed and ventilated. After the hot air furnaces were removed, we were compelled, as a matter of necessity, in order to pass the winter of 1854-5, to place steam pipes in the halls occupied by the male patients, so as to warm those halls by direct radiation.

This temporary plan of warming was found to be insufficient to the wants or comfort of this side of the house, and during the last summer we have constructed a pipe-chamber in the front north wing, occupied by male patients, and also the flues required in the partition walls of that wing, for the admission of warm and the escape of foul air. We had on hand nearly sufficient pipe for this chamber. In connection with this work, we found it necessary to relay the floors in the halls and sitting rooms of the second and third stories, which had become so much worn, that they were no longer fit for use; to re-plaster all the halls and day rooms throughout the north wing, and also to make many other extensive repairs, which in thirteen years occupation of the building had become indispensably necessary.

We have expended up to the 1st of December, for warming and ventilating the building, and repairs connected therewith, \$6,611.56, beyond the amount appropriated by the Legislature for that purpose, as will be seen by the treasurer's report, herewith submitted. This expenditure was necessary to enable us to complete the work in the south wing, in order to obtain the full benefit of what had already been done, and to construct the-pipe chamber in the basement of the north front wing, so as sufficiently to warm for the present winter, the rooms and apartments in that wing, appropriated to the male patients.

No part of the work required for warming and ventilating the north rear wing, 225 feet in length and three stories in height, and the rear cross wing, 350 feet in length, and two stories in height, has yet been done. We have caused careful estimates to be made of the cost of completing the work for warming and ventilating the north front, and rear wings, and the rear cross wing, on the plan adopted, and estimate the entire cost, inclu-

ding the \$6,611.56 already expended beyond the amount appropriated, to be \$24,771.00.

In addition to the completion of the plan for warming and efficiently ventilating the entire house, and which we regard of the first importance; it has become necessary to make many expensive repairs in the north front, and rear wings occupied by the male patients. We find by experience that the parts of the house occupied by the men are more extensively injured, and require more repairs than the south wing, appropriated to female patients. The floors in the halls and day rooms, the water closets, doors and windows, require extensive repairs to keep the institution in a proper condition for the care and cure of the insane. The wooden floors and joists in the basement have become so much decayed by dry rot, that it is necessary to remove them and flag the basement with brick.

By reference to our former reports it will be seen that we have annually expended large sums for repairs of the building, from the current receipts of the institution for the board of patients, but that income is not now sufficient to defray the ordinary current expenses of the Asylum, and in addition thereto enable us to make the extensive reconstruction now required for the necessary reparation of the building.

We have caused careful estimates to be made of the cost of relaying floors, re-constructing the wash and bath rooms, water-closets, repairing doors, windows and stairs, supporting roof of centre building, painting and other repairs required in the north front wing, and find the cost to be \$5,483.37; and for like repairs in the north rear wing our estimate of the cost is \$3,595.38.

The rear cross wing which is 350 feet in length and two stories in height, is not now in a condition to be occupied by patients. A part of the first and second stories was once used for the washing and ironing rooms, since removed to the new building before mentioned. In another portion provision was formerly made for the most violent and disturbed class of patients, but the wards thus appropriated were abandoned three

years since on account of their inappropriate character and the extensive decay of the floors, joists and timbers.

In the rear cross wing provision should be made for hospitals for the sick of each sex, which are much needed in case infectious or contagious diseases break out in the house, as has several times happened, and also for the treatment of severe cases of ordinary endemic disease. The cost of construction and preparing of this wing for this purpose is estimated at \$4,772.00.

Since the abandonment of the cells in the rear cross wing, originally constructed for the more violent and disturbed patients, we have found it difficult to provide for them in a way to prevent their annoying and disturbing the more quiet classes. They are furious and noisy, especially during the night, and should be placed in apartments so remote that their noise will not disturb other parts of the house. In some asylums for the insane this class of patients are placed in detached buildings erected especially for them. This class is not numerous as compared with the whole number, but they necessarily require special provision for their care and proper treatment.

In an institution of this capacity, it is desirable to make provision for about 16 of each sex of this class, which can be done by the erection of two small buildings of only one story in height, exclusive of the basement, in connection with the north and south rear wings, as indicated on a plan which will be submitted. Such wards require to be strongly and substantially built with brick partition walls, and strong and indestructible floors, and to be warmed and ventilated in the same manner as the other wards. The estimated cost of these two additional erections to be built, arranged and finished, in the manner required for this class of patients, with the necessary drainage, is \$10,146. The estimate has been made in detail, and we feel confident that it will cover the expense.

We also find, by experience, that it is very desirable to procure another steam boiler, of the size and construction of the two now in use, for the generation of steam. In the extreme cold weather of this climate we are obliged, in order to generate suffi-

cient heat for all the purposes required, to raise the steam in the boilers too high for the economical use of fuel; and we are also compelled to keep the two in such constant use in extreme weather, that there is not sufficient opportunity properly to clean them by removing the incrustations that form on the inner surface, and thus preserve them from injury. The cost of procuring and putting up an additional boiler, with all its necessary fixtures and connections, is estimated at \$6,000.

In connection with the other improvements now suggested, it is desirable to erect a building for a coal shed, with carpenters' and plumbers' shops above, as indicated in the plan before mentioned. The carpenters' shop now in use, and in which some of the patients at times perform considerable labor beneficially to themselves and the Asylum, is, for want of other room, in the basement of the north front wing. It exposes that wing too much to the hazard of fire, and is in other respects an inconvenient and unsuitable place for work shops. In recommending appropriations for the objects mentioned, the amount will appear large to those who are not well acquainted with the institution. It is true, also, that the appropriations heretofore made have been liberal; but they have not been larger than the legitimate objects of this great charity of the State require. It is to be remembered that this is the largest asylum for the insane in the United States; that it was erected at a time when there was a very limited experience in this country in the construction of such hospitals, and, of course, that mistakes were unavoidable. We have believed that it was our duty to rectify errors which time, and the increased knowledge upon the subject of the care and treatment of the insane in the United States and in Europe, have gradually made manifest—and to take advantage of our own experience, and the experience of similar institutions, in changing and improving this, so as to make it at least equal to the best existing asylums for the *cure* of the terrible malady of insanity. Such changes and improvements in so large a structure, and especially when its original plan was such as to render them difficult of accomplishment, could not be made without considerable expense.

By reference to our former reports, it will appear that the mode of warming by hot-air furnaces had necessarily to be abandoned. After several years' use, they had become wholly inadequate to the purpose of heating, and no system of ventilation could be connected with them which was of any value. The furnaces themselves were burned out, and the danger from fire was so imminent, as to require the most constant watchfulness, and produced incessant and disturbing anxiety. Under such circumstances, we believe we should not have performed our duty, if we had not resorted to other means for warming and ventilating the buildings of the institution. In considering these means, we deemed ourselves bound to look for and to adopt the best methods to which science and experience had attained; and, with such views, we made careful examinations and investigations, and availed ourselves of the suggestion and advice, not only of eminent professional and scientific men, but of practical mechanics. We finally determined upon the plan which has been described in detail in former reports to the Legislature. The plan was necessarily to be adapted to buildings not originally designed for it, and which were filled with nearly five hundred insane patients. There was but little experience which could be made available in this particular case, and consequently we labored under unusual disadvantages. We went forward, however, with the work, believing that the result would be beneficial, not only to the institution in our charge, but to all similar institutions and to the cause of science and humanity. The results, in all important respects, have justified our course and fulfilled our expectations. For the effect upon the patients in the wings of the house in which the new mode of heating and ventilating has been fully introduced—the effect upon their mental condition, their comfort, their health, and especially in regard to the diminution of malignant diseases—we refer, with gratification, to the report of the superintendent, which is herewith submitted. The facts stated by him, respecting the difference in the prevalence of disease in the parts of the house in which ventilation is complete, and in those in which it is incomplete, or does not exist at all, are remarkable, and are worthy of the careful consideration of every one who is engaged or in-

terested in the construction of asylums, hospitals and public buildings of all descriptions in which large numbers are assembled. The expense of this important work has been large. It was not known, and, as appeared in its prosecution, it could not have been known, how extensive and difficult were the alterations and additions which its full accomplishment required. The managers claim to have exercised their best judgment, and not to have made any expenditures which the attainment of the end that they had in view, did not seem to require; and they believe, considering present and future results, that the whole expenditure has been wisely made. It is hardly necessary to remind the Legislature, that very large sums have been expended both in this country and in Europe, in unsuccessful attempts to warm and ventilate public buildings. In the parliament house of Great Britain, with the advantage of the science and experience of that country, there has been a large expenditure in making experiments. So in the capitol at Washington; and also an expenditure of the same kind, though much less in amount, in hospitals and asylums wherever they have been erected. It is likewise to be borne in mind that curative asylums for the insane are of modern date; and that even now, there is much to be learned respecting the best methods of constructing, organizing, and conducting them. It is believed that not one has yet been erected in which experience has not demonstrated that some mistakes were committed. The buildings of this institution were planned and their erection commenced nearly twenty years ago. Certainly it is not surprising that they should require extensive repairs and improvements. For thirteen years they have been filled during the greater part of the time to their utmost capacity; and in addition to the ordinary effect of time, upon a great extent of exposure in this rigorous climate, they have been subjected to the wear and destruction incident to an occupation by from four hundred and fifty to five hundred insane men and women, and their necessary assistants and attendants. The constant use of a large amount of water in the water closets, bath, and wash rooms, and in preserving entire cleanliness through-

out the house, necessarily causes rapid decay. It is difficult for any one not acquainted with the subject by personal observation, to appreciate the necessity which exists for large, thorough, and continual repairs. We deem it expedient and consistent with a wise economy in completing the work of heating and ventilating the north (male) wings, to avail ourselves of the opportunity which the prosecution of that work affords, to lay new floors, which are required throughout the halls and day rooms, and to make such general repairs as are indispensable. The floors should be of oak, and made as perfect and durable as that material will admit of. It is particularly necessary to construct the tanks and the floors as well as the fixtures of the wash and bathing rooms, and water-closets, of materials as nearly indestructible as can be used.

While we are as well convinced as any of our fellow citizens of the importance of economy in the management of such an institution as this, and claim always to have acted in accordance with that conviction; yet we cannot be persuaded that *true* economy requires, and we are sure that the cause of humanity will not permit us to ask how *cheaply* an institution for the cure of the insane can be conducted. The moment such a question is put, and its suggestions are acted upon, an asylum begins to degenerate into a poor-house, and will soon become a receptacle for incurable patients of the worst class, and even their proper care will speedily be neglected. The State has received some reward for its beneficence in the founding and sustaining this great charity, in the restoration to health and reason of nearly two thousand of its suffering citizens; in the great degree of comfort which has been bestowed upon as many more; in the consequent blessings to relatives and friends, and incidental benefits to the public at large.

This institution is in no sense a rival to any other. The superintendent and managers have heretofore ventured to urge upon the Legislature the consideration of the subject of increased provision for the custody and treatment of the insane by the

erection of other asylums; and they hope that ample appropriations for that purpose will be made. They believe, however, that new asylums, and the interests of the insane generally, will be largely benefited, by the improvement and perfecting of this.

In asking for appropriations, the managers are influenced solely by a sense of duty. Their interest in the subject is held by them in common with every citizen of the State, and they speak and act for the common good. Their object is to improve and extend the means for alleviating the evils and sorrows of the appalling and increasing disease which is desolating so many homes, and calling so loudly for individual and public sympathy and relief.

They commend the institution which is in their charge, to the justice and generosity of the people of the State, and of their representatives, with full confidence that its interests, in common with the interests of all their charitable institutions, will be carefully considered and cherished.

We cannot close this report without alluding to the loss this institution has sustained in the decease of Dr. T. Romeyn Beck, of Albany, who died on the 19th of November last. He had been one of the members of our board from its first organization in 1842, and was at the time of his death its president. He was one of the early and influential advocates for the establishment in this State of an asylum for the relief of the insane, and never ceased to bestow gratuitously his time, his talents, and his large knowledge and experience, for the promotion of its success and usefulness. During his whole life he was the servant of the public, and labored with eminent ability and success for the diffusion of knowledge among men, and for the relief of suffering humanity. Scarcely had the grave closed over the remains of our lamented president, before we were called on to record the death of another of our members, Nicholas Devereux, Esq., who died after a brief illness, on the 29th of December last. Mr. Devereux was one of the early friends of this institution, and one of its board of management from 1842 to the time of his death. He ever manifested a strong interest in its usefulness, and faith-

fully and efficiently labored for the accomplishment in the best manner of the objects for which it was founded.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

CHARLES A. MANN,  
SILAS D. CHILDS,  
S. NEWTON DEXTER,  
CHRISTOPHER MORGAN,  
E. A. GRAHAM,  
DANIEL P. BISSELL,  
J. A. SPENCER,  
HOWARD TOWNSEND,

## TREASURER'S REPORT.

*To the Managers of the New-York State Lunatic Asylum:*

The treasurer of the Asylum respectfully submits the following summary of his receipts and payments, for the year ending November 30th, 1855:

### *General Account.*

*Receipts—December 1, 1854, to December 1, 1855:*

From last account, balance, .....	\$1,969 52
“ sundry counties, for the support of patients, .....	56,951 59
“ sundry private patients, .....	29,907 09
“ the State Treasurer, for officers' salaries, ...	5,950 26
“ “ for insane convicts, ...	4,140 44
“ “ for Mark Jack, Indian,..	163 93
From the steward, for hides, tallow, pelts, old furnaces, iron, copper, pork, pigs, &c., sold,..	2,413 43
From the steward, for a horse sold,.....	250 00
“ “ for Journal of Insanity,.....	270 64
“ P. C. Curtiss, for an old boiler,.....	15 00
	<hr/>
	\$102,031 90
	<hr/>

*Payments—December 1, 1854, to December 1, 1855:*

For provisions and household stores, .....	\$38,706 42
“ furniture, .....	6,218 53
“ attendants, assistants, and labor,.....	16,639 80
“ fuel and lights, .....	9,686 98
“ miscellaneous expenses, .....	535 76
“ farm, barn, garden and grounds, .....	3,919 97
“ books, stationery, binding, &c.,.....	697 01
“ steward's petty expenses,.....	1,000 00
	<hr/>

Carried forward, .....

[Assembly, No. 120.]

Brought forward,.....	\$	
For officers' salaries, .....	5,950	26
" medicines and medical supplies,.....	2,363	68
" additions, alterations and repairs, .....	4,876	33
" clothing of patients, (advances,) .....	7,365	09
" patients' miscellaneous expenses, .....	457	46
" sundry patients, (refunded on their discharge,) .....	271	83
Balance in the treasury, (Dec. 1, 1855,).....	3,342	78
		=====
	\$102,031	90
		=====

*Account for warming and ventilating the buildings by steam, and repairs connected therewith.*

*Receipts:*

1855.—May 25. By cash from the State Treasurer, being half the appropriation of the 14th April, 1855, to refund amount expended for heating, ventilating, &c., .....	\$15,747	16
" June 15. By cash from the State Treasurer, the other half of same appropri- ation, .....	15,747	16
" July 2. By cash from the State Treasurer, appropriation to pay a sum due for pipes and fixtures, .....	6,144	00
" Dec. 1. By balance due the treasurer, ...	6,611	56
		=====
	\$44,249	88
		=====

*Payments—From Dec. 1, 1854, to Dec. 1, 1855:*

For balance due the treasurer, according to last report, .....	\$31,494	32
For a sum due for pipes and fixtures, (J. Nason,) ..	6,144	00
For materials and work, &c., according to report in detail, .....	6,611	56
		=====
	\$44,249	88
		=====

Dated UTICA, December 1, 1855.

EDM'D A. WETMORE,

Treasurer.

## THIRTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT

### Of the Superintendent of the New-York State Lunatic Asylum, for the year ending November 30th, 1855.

*To the Managers of the Asylum:*

GENTLEMEN—Herewith is submitted the report of the general condition and operations of the institution during the year.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Number of patients at the commencement of the year, .....	226	224	450
Received during the year, .....	169	106	275
Whole number treated, .....	395	330	725
 Daily average under treatment, .....	 467		
Ordinary capacity of the house, .....			440
 Males.	Females.	Total.	
Discharged recovered, .....	70	58	128
"    improved, .....	10	5	15
"    unimproved, .....	50	29	79
Not insane, .....	15	1	16
Died, .....	20	12	32
 165	105	270	
Remaining, November 30th, 1855, .....	230	225	455
 Applicants refused admission, .....	 167		
Unimproved patients discharged to make room for recent cases, .....			34
Number the institution has been unable to provide for,....		201	

The foregoing general statistics exhibit an unusually large daily average under treatment, an increased percentage of recoveries on the admissions, a diminished mortality, a crowded

state of the institution at the close of the year, a decrease in the number of admissions when compared with former years, and a large list of applicants refused though proper cases for reception.

The daily average under treatment has been twenty-seven above the capacity of the Asylum, and in June, July and August, this excess reached fifty, and seriously impaired the curative influence of the institution by so crowding the wards as to render it impossible to maintain a proper classification.

The percentage of recoveries on the admissions is 46.54 per cent, being somewhat above that of the past four years. Of the one hundred and twenty-eight recovered, ninety-eight or 76.56 per cent were placed under treatment within three months after the date of attack.

The sixteen reported as not insane, were cases of feigned disease, congenital imbeciles, boys who from defective domestic training were ungovernable in their passions, (and whom for want of a better term we style moral delinquents,) and persons of intemperate habits who sought, voluntarily, or at the suggestion of friends, seclusion as a means of reformation, or were brought to us laboring under attacks of delirium-tremens mistaken for maniacal disease.

In reporting the general health of the house, it is necessary to speak separately of the male and female departments, as they have presented a striking contrast in this respect; the general standard of health of the former being much lower than that of the latter at all seasons, but especially during the winter and spring, attributable, in a great measure, to the difference in the state of the atmosphere in the respective divisions. The prevailing diseases were as follows:

<i>Male Department.</i>		<i>Female Department.</i>	
Dysentery, .....	25	Dysentery, .....	16
Erysipelas, .....	12	Erysipelas, .....	1
Acute articular rheumatism, .....	9	Acute articular rheumatism, .....	2
Pneumonia, .....	6	Bronchitis, .....	1
Intermittent fever, .....	2		
Typhoid fever, .....	2		

Simultaneously, or nearly so, with the prevalence of dysentery in many of the cities and larger villages of this State, an epidemic of that disease made its appearance here. The first case occurred on the 3d of August, and cases occurred from that date until Sept. 4th, when the disease in its epidemic form disappeared. Eighteen males and sixteen females were attacked, all of whom recovered. The disease was characterized by great prostration of strength, and in a number, convalescence was very slow and tedious.

Diarrhoea prevailed in the male wings during the greater part of the year, while among the female patients but ten cases occurred, all coincidently with the epidemic above referred to.

In some of the most severe cases of dysentery and pneumonia, in patients laboring under acute mental disease, convalescence from the latter commenced with the invasion of the former, and was permanent.

The mortality is below that of the past eight years, being 4.44 per cent on the whole number treated, and 6.87 per cent on the average population.

The following table will show the causes of death and the form of the attending mental disease:

FORM OF MENTAL DISEASE.	CAUSE OF DEATH.																					Total.
	Exhaustion from mental disease.		General paralysis.		Epilepsy.		Suicide.		Phthisis pulmonalis.		Cardiac disease.		Edema of lungs.		Ovarian disease.		Old age.		Intemperance and vice.		Typhoid fever.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Dementia, . . . . .	4	2	3	..	2	..	..	..	5	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	11	8	
Acute mania, . . . . .	2	1	1	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	5	2	
Periodic mania, . . . . .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	
Chronic mania, . . . . .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	
Melancholia, . . . . .	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	
Sénile dementia, . . . . .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	1	
Total, . . . . .	7	3	4	..	3	..	1	..	6	2	..	..	1	1	1	1	1	1	..	20	12	

## TABLE,

*Showing the percentage of deaths on the whole number treated.  
Average population for thirteen years.*

YEAR.	Deaths.	Whole number treated.	Percentage.	Average population.	Percentage.
1843, .....	7	267	2.53	109	6.42
1844, .....	16	471	3.39	236	6.78
1845, .....	21	553	3.79	265	7.92
1846, .....	22	622	3.53	283	7.77
1847, .....	48	802	5.98	415	11.56
1848, .....	86	877	9.80	474	18.14
1849, .....	69	857	8.05	454	15.19
1850, .....	51	816	6.25	433	11.77
1851, .....	48	795	6.03	440	10.91
1852, .....	39	825	4.72	441	8.84
1853, .....	39	849	4.59	423	9.22
1854, .....	65	836	7.75	444	14.63
1855, .....	32	725	4.41	467	6.85

We took occasion, in our last report, to refer to the defective arrangements existing for taking care of the sick, and recommended, for hospital purposes, the re-construction and appropriation of part of the rear cross wing, which is now unoccupied.

In addition to the advantages which a distinct hospital department confers in the treatment of severe cases of ordinary endemic diseases, and the facility it affords for isolating those of an infectious or contagious character, it would prove highly serviceable in the care of general paralysis in its latter stages, and in cases of acute maniacal disease, accompanied by such prostration of strength as to require the patients to be kept in bed, of which the institution receives a number every year. Such diseases render the general condition of the atmosphere unpleasant and unhealthful, require a special nurse to remain with them through the night, and demand the frequent presence of the physician. It is obvious, therefore, that their treatment in the wards must be attended with more inconvenience and discomfort than at first thought might appear. We therefore repeat the recommendation of last year.

We also earnestly recommend the construction of some suitable wards or apartments in this Asylum for the treatment of the more disturbed classes, to take the place of those which were abandoned, and finally removed three years ago, on account of their inappropriate character, being in the form of cells and without windows, and their floors, joists and timbers being in a state of decay. Such a ward, for each sex, is absolutely necessary to the proper classification and comfort of the house. As we are now situated, this class is not only in such close proximity to the convalescent wards as to annoy the patients night and day by their noise, and excite themselves unnecessarily to a still higher degree, but that which is yet more detrimental, the males and females are within speaking distance of each other.

The increase in the number of attendants, though augmenting somewhat the expenses of the institution, has greatly promoted the comfort, and in many instances hastened the recovery of patients. We now have, in the female department, one attendant to every six patients, exclusive of those charged with special duties, which, according to Jacobi, who is acknowledged authority on the subject, is the proper average in a well regulated institution. On the male department we have but one to nine, exclusive of nurses for the sick—a proportion too small to secure to all the personal attention required, and the out-door occupation and exercise so necessary to the welfare of the patients in an institution like this, where so large a number of recent cases of disease are annually treated.

Of the four hundred and forty-two applications for admission, we have been obliged to refuse one hundred and sixty-seven, or about 40 per cent. In addition to this, we have been under the painful necessity of deferring the reception of many recent cases until the most favorable period for treatment had passed; and, what is equally unpleasant to record, several, whom we were obliged to refuse as private patients, and who remained at home until their means had become exhausted, or so embarrassed as to compel them to apply for aid to county officers, we were subsequently compelled to receive at public charge, when it was too late to entertain a reasonable hope of cure.

The diminished number of admissions is accounted for by the decrease in the number discharged "unimproved." It has been the custom of the institution, in accordance with law, to send annually to the poor-houses, or to the care of friends, many who had been under treatment two or three years, and in their place receive a corresponding number of new cases. During the past year, we have adopted this course in as few instances as duty would permit—first, because the receptacles for this class are filled; and secondly, we believe the provision of the law advising this step originated in a mistaken notion of the disease to be treated, and is at variance with justice and humanity. Insanity is a grave disease, requiring the most careful investigation, the most patient observation, and the skilful application of means—all of which must often extend over a period of many years. The idea of consigning the unfortunate victims of such a malady to poor-houses—places, with few exceptions, not only destitute of medical and moral means of treatment, but even without the ordinary physical comforts of life, is a species of cruelty which should excite universal disapprobation.

Furthermore, the legal sanction thus given to poor-houses as suitable places for the custody of cases of long standing, led many public officers in former years, ignorant of the nature and demands of the disease, and through a mistaken economy, to confine in those houses and attempt the treatment there of recent cases—thus also rendering incurable a large number, who, under appropriate treatment in an asylum, would have recovered in a few months. In order to attain information as to the probable number and condition of the persons in the various poor-houses of the State, we addressed circulars to the superintendents of the poor on the subject; and, as far as heard from (we have received no replies from Kings, Suffolk, New-York, Schenectady, Oswego, Putnam, St. Lawrence, Greene and Schuyler), we learn that the number is 750, *of whom but 216, or 28.08 per cent, have received the benefits of asylum treatment!* *Of the whole number, 180 are constantly confined in cells and 70 in mechanical restraint!* One public officer, in speaking of the wretched condition of the insane in county-houses, remarked that one female, who while here occupied a quiet ward, *had been chained in a*

*garret room of the poor-house for eighteen months; but that her husband had recently removed her to another State, and, he believed, had succeeded in getting her into an asylum.* Another, in congratulating the county on the improved condition of the insane, remarked—“*that whereas, formerly, a great majority were in chains, now but four or five were kept so constantly; others were kept chained only at night, or perhaps for an hour or two through the day.*” One of the counties of the State, only little more than a year ago, had in the county-house, on the 18th July, fifty-three insane; on the 25th of the same month, only twenty-nine—twenty-four having died of cholera in one week, and that when there was no cholera in the neighborhood! This same county-house now contains sixty-nine insane. Such things need no comment, though they themselves are sad commentaries on the condition of the public mind in reference to the treatment of this most afflictive form of disease. If there was a correct and active public opinion upon this subject, those who have the poor and sick in their charge would not so neglect and violate their duty.

We are happy, however, to add that a great majority of the superintendents of the poor appreciate and deeply deplore this condition of things, and are very unwillingly compelled to place the insane under their charge in poor-houses, either for treatment or custody; and in August last they held a convention to consider, among other questions, that of proper provision for the insane, which resulted in the appointment of a committee of their body to memorialize the Legislature on the subject.

This institution has for several years past been wholly inadequate to the wants of the State, and while the population has been increasing, no corresponding additional provision has been made for the insane.

We cannot expect, in justice to the institution during the coming year, to receive more than two hundred patients, and yet three times that number will doubtless require its care. What shall become of these cases is a question alike of public and private interest.

According to the returns of the last census (1855), furnished us from the office of the Secretary of State, the number of insane persons in the State not provided for in asylums is 1,663.

In view of these facts, we feel it our duty to impress upon you, in the name of this afflicted class, whose interests you represent, the importance of urging upon the Legislature the immediate erection of other asylums. We cannot but believe that the interests of the State would be thereby subserved. It is certainly economy as well as humanity to provide for the cure of this formidable disease, rather than to neglect its victims, and annually lose not only the services of many valuable citizens, by consigning them to hopeless insanity, but entail upon their families a burthen of immeasurable sorrow, and upon the public an annual charge for their support.

The distinguished Dr. Brigham, in his second report, remarks : “There are few serious diseases in which early treatment is more essential for recovery than insanity, and few in which it is more likely to be successful. A large majority of the recent cases of this disease recover, when subjected to early and judicious treatment, and removed from home and from places where the exciting causes of the disease tend to perpetuate it. *It is the neglect of this early treatment that fills the almshouses and asylums of the State with the incurable insane.* We therefore earnestly entreat those who have the guardianship of the insane not to neglect early treatment.” If this earnest and truthful appeal was necessary ten years ago, it is doubly so at the present time, when this prediction, in the realization of the very state of things predicted, has, unhappily, by an unwise and short-sighted policy, been only too well verified.

The law passed during the last session of the Legislature, in reference to insane convicts, has not been carried into effect, there being no suitable place in connection with any one of the prisons for the care of this class. None, however, have been sent to this institution during the past year. There are now 43 in all, 20 in this asylum and 23 in the several prisons.

In our last annual report we assumed that the wrong committed on society by forcing upon its insane members the association of convicts, was too manifest to require argument; and we still hold this to be true. Society at large would not admit convicts afflicted with other diseases into private families, or sanction their removal to general hospitals for medical treatment. Why should insanity prove an exception, and institutions for the insane be compelled to receive among their inmates convicts from State prisons? Should not their irresponsibility rather entitle them to protection from such an association? Insanity absolves from no crimes committed previous to its invasion. The convict is as criminal in his insanity as before, and it is not the duty of society to take him into her bosom in such an event, but to provide for the restoration of his health as in the case of any other disease. If it is suggested that a ward for this class might be constructed in the State Asylum, we reply—that this would not allow of classification, employment, or exercise—*it would simply be a change in the place of imprisonment.* What advantage even to the convict could arise from such a course? Doubtless, the true plan is to erect a suitable building in connection with one of the State prisons, in which all insane convicts could be judiciously treated, and their safety as well as that of the public secured. The disgrace of crime is owing to its commission, and not to the place of imprisonment. We see no objections, therefore, to this arrangement. An asylum of such a character would be in harmony with its purpose, and with the strictest justice and highest mercy.

The experience of the past year fully justifies the opinion expressed in our last report, that the important improvements in heating and ventilating, introduced into the south (or female) wing, at great expense to the State, will amply repay the amount of expenditure by the increased facilities they afford for the comfort and recovery of patients. It may be pertinent here to remark, that the appreciation of this system of ventilation is evinced in the fact, that no less than four other similar institutions have adopted it, and others have it under contemplation,

and that it is also to be introduced into the buildings of the capitol at Washington city.

We have been during the past year in a very favorable situation to observe the comparative influence of natural and mechanical ventilation upon the comfort and health of our household. As shown in a preceding table, the amount of endemic disease in the female wing has been less than half that in the male; without doubt the result of the large quantity of pure air supplied to the former, and the prevailing uniformity of temperature maintained through the winter. As to the comfort of the two sides of the house, the contrast is too great to admit of comparison.

For a time after the introduction of ventilation, the fan was kept in motion only eighteen hours of the twenty-four; but for several months past it has been running night and day at a rate of speed, which, in the summer, afforded 70,000 cubic feet of air per minute, or 280 feet to each occupant; in fall and spring about 40,000 feet per minute, and through the winter months about 30,000 feet per minute, or 140 feet per minute to each occupant. These quantities secure a pure and healthful atmosphere, the supplying of which does not materially add to our expenses, as the steam used in driving the machinery is afterwards appropriated to heating the water for cooking, bathing, washing, and for the several purposes of the laundry.

Of the importance of completing the arrangements for warming and ventilating the male department, and the improvements and repairs connected therewith, you are well aware. Aside from the manifest considerations of economy and health, there are others of safety and justice, which cannot have escaped your observation in your visits. We refer particularly to the danger to patients, as well as to officers and attendants, consequent upon the exposure for many consecutive months, of the tools and materials necessary for masons' and carpenters' work, in the midst of wards crowded with insane men. The increased responsibility and vigilance which this state of things imposes on all connected

with the government of the institution, we must mention as among the most pressing considerations for the early and speedy completion of the work.

### STATISTICS.

*General statistics of the Asylum from its opening, January 16th 1843, to December 1st, 1855.*

Total number of admissions, .....	4,588
do of discharges, .....	4,133
do discharged recovered, .....	1,917
do improved, .....	710
do unimproved, .....	947
do died, .....	543
do not insane, .....	16

*Ages of those admitted and those discharged recovered, during the year ending Nov. 30, 1855.*

AGE.	ADMITTED.			DISCHARG'D RECOVERED		
	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.
From 10 to 20,.....	14	6	20	9	8	17
20 to 30,.....	39	28	67	21	20	41
30 to 40,.....	46	36	82	14	14	28
40 to 50,.....	27	17	44	13	10	23
50 to 60,.....	29	11	40	9	4	13
60 to 70,.....	13	5	18	4	2	6
70 to 80,.....	1	3	4	.....	.....	.....
	169	106	275	70	58	128

*Civil condition of patients admitted.*

Married,.....	151
Single, .....	102
Widows,.....	13
Widowers, .....	9
	275

OCCUPATION  
*Of 275 patients admitted.*

Farmers, . . . . .	50
Farm laborers, . . . . .	24
Laborers, . . . . .	23
Merchants, . . . . .	9
Teachers, . . . . .	6
School boys, . . . . .	5
Carpenters, . . . . .	5
Clerks, . . . . .	5
Blacksmiths, . . . . .	4
Clergymen, . . . . .	4
Physicians, . . . . .	3
Lawyers, . . . . .	3
Shoemakers, . . . . .	3
Painters, . . . . .	3
Gardeners, . . . . .	2
Brush makers, . . . . .	2
Tailors, . . . . .	2
Boatmen, . . . . .	2
Pedlars, . . . . .	2
Grocers, . . . . .	2
Masons, . . . . .	2
Editor, . . . . .	1
Printer, . . . . .	1
Dentist, . . . . .	1
Druggist, . . . . .	1
Machinist, . . . . .	1
Cigar maker, . . . . .	1
Housekeepers, . . . . .	62
House work, . . . . .	26
Seamstresses, . . . . .	5
Factory operatives, . . . . .	4
School girls, . . . . .	3
Hotel keeper, . . . . .	1
Carriage maker, . . . . .	1
No occupation, . . . . .	6

## NATIVITY.

New-York, .....	179
Ireland, .....	27
Germany, .....	12
Connecticut, .....	12
England, .....	12
Massachusetts,.....	9
New-Hampshire, .....	4
Vermont, .....	7
Scotland, .....	3
Canada, .....	2
France,.....	1
Pennsylvania, .....	1
New-Jersey, .....	1
Maine, .....	1
Ohio, .....	1
Virginia, .....	1
Turkey, .....	1
Switzerland,.....	1
	—
	275
	—

*Education, habits, &c.*

Of the two hundred and seventy-five admitted, twenty-five had received an academic, one hundred and eighty a common education, and fifty-four could only read and write. Sixteen had no education at all.

Forty-three were intemperate.

One hundred and two males and thirty-eight females were not members of any religious society.

## FORM OF INSANITY.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Acute mania,.....	40	27	67
Sub-acute mania, .....	9	11	20
Periodic mania,.....	9	7	16
Paroxysmal mania,.....	10	1	11
Chronic mania, .....	11	4	15
Homicidal mania, .....	1	..	1
Hysteromania, .....	..	5	5
Hysteria, .....	..	1	1
Melancholia, .....	16	4	20
Hypochondriasis, .....	1	1	2
Dementia,.....	44	41	85
Senile dementia, .....	1	3	4
Dementia with epilepsy, .....	3	1	4
Dementia with general paralysis, .....	7	..	7
Mania with epilepsy, .....	4	..	4
Imbeciles,.....	3	..	3
Drunkards, .....	2	..	2
Moral delinquents,.....	2	..	2
Mania-a-potu, .....	2	..	2
Feigned insanity, .....	4	..	4
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	169	106	275
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

The case reported as homicidal mania occurred in a man laboring under disease of the heart, and subject more or less to hypochondriasis, with periods of exhilaration followed by depression. During the stage of depression he was haunted with the idea of destroying his wife and children. He could offer no reason, except that he felt impelled to the act while with them. He has at all times realised his situation, and, fearing he might not be able to control himself, requested to be placed under restraint.

Seven males and one female admitted evinced homicidal, and twenty-three males and twelve females suicidal propensity.

## PROBABLE CAUSE OF DERANGEMENT.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Intemperance and vice,.....	35	..	35
Vicious habits and indulgences,.....	9	..	9
Popular errors, .....	7	2	9
Puerperal, .....	..	11	11
Domestic trouble, .....	7	2	9
Change of life,.....	..	5	5
Defective training, .....	5	2	7
Grief, .....	2	5	7
Hereditary predisposition,.....	7	4	11
Predisposition from previous attacks, .....	7	6	13
Epilepsy, .....	5	1	6
Business perplexities,.....	10	1	11
Menstrual irregularities, .....	..	18	18
Injuries of head, .....	2	..	2
Old age, .....	1	2	3
Religious excitement,.....	3	..	3
Want and destitution, .....	..	3	3
Seduction, .....	..	1	1
Disappointment in love, .....	..	1	1
Loss of sleep,.....	5	3	8
Exhaustion from heat, .....	1	..	1
Aneurism of aorta,.....	1	..	1
Disease of heart, .....	1	..	1
Uterine diseases, .....	..	3	3
Ill health, .....	19	19	38
Excessive labor and anxiety, .....	11	2	13
Feigned to escape punishment,.....	4	..	4
Congenital imbeciles, .....	2	..	2
Pregnancy,.....	..	1	1
Nostalgia, .....	3	1	4
Paralysis, .....	1	..	1
Apoplexy, .....	4	1	5
Unascertained, .....	17	12	29
	169	106	275

## HEREDITARY PREDISPOSITION.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Paternal branch of family, .....	17	14	31
Maternal " " .....	26	13	39
Paternal and maternal, .....	4	2	6
Insane relatives, broth's, sisters, cousins, &c.	4	6	10
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	51	35	86
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

The above table shows hereditary predisposition in 29.34 per cent of the number of insane admitted, and 33.20 per cent had insane relatives.

## TABLE

*Showing the duration of insanity previous to admission, and the period under treatment, of the one hundred and twenty-eight discharged recovered.*

	Duration before admission.			Under treatment.		
	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.
Under three months, .....	58	40	98	22	8	30
" six " .....	4	11	15	24	16	40
" twelve " .....	3	4	7	17	21	38
Over one year and less than three, .....	3	..	3	7	12	19
" three " " five, ..	2	1	3	..	1	1
" five " " ten, ...	..	1	1	..	..	..
" ten years, .....	..	1	1	..	..	..
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	70	58	128	70	58	128
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

It will be observed, from the above table, that one hundred and twenty, or 93.75 per cent of those recovered, were placed under treatment within a year after the invasion of the disease, and one hundred and eight, or 84.45 per cent, were restored in less than a year.

*Table Showing the form of Disease in those Discharged Recovered.*

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Acute mania,.....	26	25	51
Sub-acute mania, .....	6	7	13
Periodic mania,.....	13	7	20
Chronic mania, .....	2	3	5
Hysteromania, .....		5	5
Melancholia, .....	12	3	15
Dementia, .....	10	5	15
Acute dementia, .....		2	2
Hysteria, .....		1	1
Moral insanity, .....	1		1
 Total, .....	70	58	128
	==	==	==

**TABLE***Showing the percentage of recoveries on the average population, and admissions of each year.*

YEAR.	ON AVERAGE POPULATION.			ON ADMISSIONS.		
	Average population.	Recovered.	Percentage.	Admitted.	Recovered.	Percentage.
1843..	109	53	48.62	276	53	19.20
1844..	236	132	55.93	275	132	48.80
1845..	265	135	50.94	293	135	46.07
1846..	283	133	46.99	237	133	39.46
1847..	415	187	45.06	428	187	43.69
1848..	474	174	36.70	405	174	42.96
1849..	454	203	44.71	362	203	56.07
1850..	433	171	39.49	367	171	46.59
1851..	440	112	25.45	366	112	30.60
1852..	441	156	35.37	390	156	40.00
1853..	423	169	39.95	424	169	39.85
1854..	444	164	37.16	390	164	42.05
1855..	467	128	27.40	275	128	46.54

Number of patients admitted from each county during the year ending Nov. 30, 1855; the number remaining at its close, and how supported.

COUNTIES.	HOW SENT.			REMAINING.		
	Public.	Private.	Total.	Public.	Private.	Total.
Albany, . . . . .	3	4	7	13	4	17
Allegany, . . . . .	3	1	4	4	1	5
Broome, . . . . .	.....	.....	.....	4	1	5
Cattaraugus, . . . . .	1	1	2	4	1	5
Cayuga, . . . . .	9	3	12	14	6	20
Chautauque, . . . . .	2	2	4	5	2	7
Chemung, . . . . .	1	.....	1	4	.....	4
Chenango, . . . . .	4	1	5	4	2	6
Clinton, . . . . .	1	.....	1	4	.....	4
Columbia. . . . .	2	1	3	2	3	5
Cortland, . . . . .	2	.....	2	1	.....	1
Delaware, . . . . .	2	1	3	2	.....	2
Dutchess, . . . . .	7	1	8	10	.....	10
Erie, . . . . .	3	5	8	2	3	5
Essex, . . . . .	1	1	2	4	.....	4
Franklin, . . . . .	1	1	2	1	.....	1
Fulton, . . . . .	2	1	3	3	1	4
Genesee, . . . . .	1	1	2	2	2	4
Greene, . . . . .	2	.....	2	5	.....	5
Herkimer, . . . . .	2	6	8	3	6	9
Jefferson, . . . . .	4	1	5	6	2	8
Kings, . . . . .	1	.....	1	.....	.....	.....
Lewis, . . . . .	1	3	4	5	2	7
Livingston, . . . . .	.....	3	3	2	2	4
Madison, . . . . .	4	5	9	7	7	14
Monroe, . . . . .	4	9	13	16	3	19
Montgomery, . . . . .	2	3	5	4	1	5
New-York, . . . . .	.....	1	1	3	3	6
Niagara, . . . . .	.....	.....	.....	4	1	5
Oneida, . . . . .	12	11	23	32	11	43
Onondaga, . . . . .	8	6	14	16	5	21
Ontario, . . . . .	5	4	9	7	8	15
Orange, . . . . .	5	2	7	7	2	9
Orleans, . . . . .	5	2	7	4	2	6
Oswego, . . . . .	6	2	8	11	2	13
Otsego, . . . . .	6	2	8	7	4	11
Queens, . . . . .	.....	1	1	1	1	2
Rensselaer, . . . . .	12	2	14	24	3	27
Rockland, . . . . .	1	.....	1	.....	.....	.....
Richmond, . . . . .	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	1
Saratoga, . . . . .	4	5	9	5	3	8
Schenectady, . . . . .	4	2	6	5	2	7
Schoharie, . . . . .	2	1	3	5	1	6
Schuyler, . . . . .	1	.....	1	1	.....	1
Seneca, . . . . .	2	3	5	4	3	7
St. Lawrence, . . . . .	3	5	8	3	4	7
Steuben, . . . . .	2	2	4	6	1	7
Suffolk, . . . . .	1	.....	1	4	.....	4
Sullivan, . . . . .	2	.....	2	6	.....	6
Tioga, . . . . .	1	.....	1	5	.....	5
Tompkins, . . . . .	4	.....	4	2	.....	2
Ulster, . . . . .	.....	.....	.....	7	.....	7
Warren, . . . . .	1	.....	1	2	.....	2
Washington, . . . . .	.....	.....	.....	3	.....	3
Wayne, . . . . .	5	1	6	6	1	7
Westchester, . . . . .	2	.....	2	4	1	5
Wyoming, . . . . .	.....	1	1	3	.....	3
Yates, . . . . .	4	1	5	5	1	6
Auburn prison, . . . . .	1	.....	1	6	.....	6
Clinton prison, . . . . .	1	.....	1	2	.....	2
Sing Sing prison, . . . . .	.....	.....	.....	13	.....	13
Other States, . . . . .	.....	2	2	.....	2	2
	165	110	275	345	110	455

The Matron reports the following articles made by the female patients and attendants, in addition to the mending in the house:

Sheets, . . . . .	794
Pillow cases, . . . . .	586
Curtains, . . . . .	196
Towels, . . . . .	771
Mattrass ticks, . . . . .	78
Pillow ticks, . . . . .	12
Straw ticks, . . . . .	206
Table cloths, . . . . .	79
Shirts, . . . . .	635
Wrappers, . . . . .	298
Drawers, . . . . .	144
Chemises, . . . . .	479
Cravats, . . . . .	717
Pocket handkerchiefs, . . . . .	393
Socks, . . . . .	203
Hose, . . . . .	179
Dresses, . . . . .	475
Aprons, . . . . .	166
Sacks, . . . . .	116
Shirts, . . . . .	186
Night dresses, . . . . .	174
Caps, . . . . .	184
Comfortables, . . . . .	160
 Total, . . . . .	 7,231

The Steward makes the following report of the shops, farm, garden, &c.:

Though the various shops have been in successful operation, few articles of furniture have been made, all the mechanics having been employed in carrying forward the general improvements and repairs connected with the introduction of ventilation. In the tailors' shop the following garments have been made: 27 coats, 96 vests, 117 pair pants, 8 roundabouts, 3 pair overalls.

The farm and garden have been unusually productive, and in addition to furnishing occupation to many patients, have been a large source of income.

*Report of farm and garden.*

Hay, 20 tons, at \$10,.....			\$200 00
Sweet corn, 200 bushels, at 3s,.....			75 00
Corn stalks, 10 tons, at \$5,.....			50 00
Potatoes, 1,524 bushels, at 4s,.....			762 00
Green peas, 430 do 4s,.....			215 00
Seed peas, 9 do 16s,.....			18 00
String beans, 320 do 4s,.....			160 00
Seed beans, 20 do 8s,.....			20 00
Cranberry beans, 150 do 12s,.....			225 00
Lima beans, 115 do 8s,.....			115 00
Beets, 800 do 2s,.....			200 00
Beets (green), 325 do 1s,.....			40 62
Onions (green), 80 do 2s,.....			20 00
Onions (dry), 500 do 4s,.....			250 00
Peppers, 25 do 14s,.....			43 75
Carrots, 2,000 do 2s,.....			500 00
Parsnips, 500 do 2s,.....			125 00
Turnips, 1,000 do 3s,.....			375 00
Salsify, 437 do 9s,.....			491 63
Cucumbers (pickled), 35 bbls, at 22s,.....			96 25
Cucumbers (early), 25 bushels, at 8s,.....			25 00
Egg plant, 50 do 14s,.....			87 50
Spinage, 500 do 18 $\frac{3}{4}$ cts,.....			93 75
Parsley, 250 bunches, 18 $\frac{3}{4}$ cts,.....			46 88
Pepper grass, 115 do 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ cts,.....			14 38
Cauliflower, 1,500 heads, 8 cts,.....			120 00
Cabbage, 8,200 do 5 cts,.....			410 00
Celery, 6,000 do 4 cts,.....			240 06
Asparagus, 5,000 bunches, 6 cts,.....			300 00
Lettuce, 1,900 doz. head, 3 cts,.....			57 00
Rhubarb, 7,000 bunches, 8 cts,.....			560 00
Summer squash, 3,200 dozen, 8 cts,.....			256 00
Winter squash, 500 do 8 cts,.....			40 00

Water melons,	120	dozen, at 12½ cts,.....	\$15 00
Nutmeg melons,	240	do 6 cts,.....	14 40
Currants,	8,000	quarts, 5 cts,.....	400 00
Gooseberries,	180	do 6 cts,.....	10 80
Raspberries,	800	do 6 cts,.....	48 00
Strawberries,	2,000	do 12½ cts,.....	250 00
Sage,	100	pounds, 25 cts,.....	25 00
Tomatoes,	420	bushels, 50 cts,.....	210 00
Cherries,	6	do \$3.00 .....	18 00
Plums,	85	do \$1.50 .....	127 50
Apples,	60	do 50 cts,.....	30 00
Pears,	10	do \$2.00 .....	20 00
			<hr/>
			\$7,401 47
			<hr/>

The improvements on the front lawn have been continued. The ground is now all in grass, half the trees are set out, and the carriage roads and walks partly finished. We anticipate the entire completion of this work during the coming year, in accordance with the original plan of Mr. Downing.

*Stock on farm.*

Five horses, one yoke of oxen, twenty-one cows, one bull, and one hundred and six hogs.

Amount received for pigs sold and swine slaughtered for use of house during the year, .....	\$1,186 55
Value of swine on hand,.....	1,412 00
	<hr/>
	\$2,598 55
Value of swine on hand at commencement of year, .....	\$1,016 00
Amount paid for feed for do,.....	250 00
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Profit of the year,.....	1,266 00
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	\$1,332 55
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The avails of the Opal and ladies' annual fair were, conjointly, \$600, which the patients devoted to purchasing a portrait, in oil, of the late Dr. Brigham, the purchase of a new piano, and towards a set of Audubon's Quadrupeds and Birds of America.

The Rev. Chauncey E. Goodrich still officiates acceptably as chaplain. Our pulpit has been filled at various times by Rev. W. E. Knox, of Rome, Rev. Dr. Fowler, Rev. Messrs. Brandigee, Lincoln, Corey, and Rev. Dr. Fisher, of Utica, to whom we here express our thanks.

We desire to express our indebtedness to Rev. Dr. Bettleheim, for a lecture on Japan, and to Mrs. Macready, Paul Julien, August Gockel, the Euphonians, Ethiopians, New-York Burlesque Opera Troupe, for entertainments.

We are under obligations to the Utica Mechanics' Association for many favors extended to our household. Also to the Utica & Black River railroad company for placing at our disposal an excursion train to Trenton Falls, and to Mr. Moore, proprietor of the hotel, for his polite attention on the occasion.

The institution has received valuable public documents from Hon. O. B. Matteson, Hon. Hamilton Fish, Hon. Wm. H. Seward, Hon. E. W. Leavenworth, Gen. R. U. Sherman, the late Dr. T. Romeyn Beck, and Dr. Edward Jarvis, (of Mass.)

Books have been presented by Dr. J. H. Griscom, of New York, and T. B. Peterson, of Philadelphia. To these gentlemen, and all others who have contributed to the welfare and happiness of those under our care, we in their behalf return grateful acknowledgments.

To the Hon. Charles Mason, commissioner of patents, and to Mr. Charles A. Downing, we are indebted for flower and garden seeds, and to the latter for valuable suggestions in regard to the seeding down and care of our lawns and the planting of the ornamental trees.

Mr. H. N. Dryer, who was appointed steward in August last, after the resignation of Mr. and Mrs. Bartlett, has thus far shown himself a competent and efficient officer. Miss Amelia A. Curtis has satisfactorily discharged the duties of matron during the same period.

I am happy to bear testimony to the general good conduct, industry and fidelity of our corps of attendants and assistants.

I would do injustice to myself to close this report without acknowledging the valuable services of the medical gentlemen associated with me in the care and direction of the Asylum. They are thoroughly educated men, in whose sound judgment I have been enabled to rely not only for the performance of all ordinary duties, but to whom, in my necessary absences, I have entrusted with confidence the entire medical responsibility and government of the institution.

I cannot but express the conviction that an institution of this character can only attain its highest usefulness when the superintendent is sustained and his arduous duties shared by fully responsible officers.

In conducting the institution through the past year, while we have labored to exercise a wholesome economy in all departments, we have felt it our duty to endeavor to surround those who have been entrusted to us with all the means and appliances which contribute to restoration rather than to make the Asylum a place of cheap custodial care; believing that a public institution for the treatment of the insane should at least be on an equality with the best general hospitals in the medical direction, diet, care and personal comfort of patients, and should aim at nothing less than all the improvements, advantages and excellencies afforded by the increase of knowledge and the progress of science.

Allow me here, gentlemen, to thank you for your uniform kindness, and the great assistance you have at all times rendered me in the discharge of my duties, by your counsel and experience.

With gratitude to God for the blessings and success which have crowned our labors, and committing the institution to His overruling care, we commence another year.

JOHN P. GRAY.

STATE LUNATIC ASYLUM, }  
Utica, Nov. 30th, 1855. }

## APPENDIX.

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For the information of those who may desire to place their friends in this institution, we add the law regulating the admission of patients :

Reference to laws passed by the Legislature relative to insane persons.

Part 1, chap. 20, title 3, art. 1 of the Revised Statutes, "of the safe keeping and care of Lunatics."

Session Laws, 1842, chap. 135, "An act to organize the State Lunatic Asylum, and more effectually to provide for the care, maintenance and recovery of the Insane."

Session Laws, 1850, chap. 282, sec. 2, relating to sending indigent insane persons, not paupers to the Asylum.

Session Laws, 1851, chap. 446, amending the law respecting indigent insane persons.

"Each county may at all times have one indigent insane patient in the asylum, whose disease at the time of admission was a first attack, and did not exceed six months; and such further number of either old or recent cases as the asylum can accommodate, in proportion to the insane population of the county. The patients shall be designated by the superintendents of the poor, or, if the county has no such superintendents, by the first judge. (Chap. 135, Session Laws, 1842, sect 25.)

"The county superintendents of the poor of any county, and any overseers of the poor of any town to which any person shall be chargeable, who shall be or become a lunatic, may send such person to the lunatic asylum by an order under their hands."

Under this law, an order of the superintendent of the poor for the county, or of the overseers of the poor of the town to which the patient is chargeable, and which pays the expense without recourse to the county, is all that is necessary for admission of any poor person. Where the order is made by the overseers of the poor of a town, it should be stated that the town alone is liable for the support of the patient, and not the county.

The order of a county judge secures the admission of *indigent* persons, not *paupers*, in which order it must be stated that the applicant became insane within one year prior to the date of the order.

Sec. 26 of act of 1842 is as follows :

“ When a person in indigent circumstances, not a pauper, becomes insane, application may be made in his behalf to the first judge of the county where he resides; and said judge shall call two respectable physicians and other credible witnesses, and fully investigate the facts of the case, and either with or without the verdict of a jury, at his discretion, as to the question of insanity, shall decide the case as to his indigence. And if the judge certifies that satisfactory proof has been adduced showing him insane, and his estate is insufficient to support him and his family (or, if he has no family, himself,) under the <sup>11</sup>visitation of insanity, on his certificate, authenticated by the county clerk and seal of the county court, he shall be admitted into the asylum, and supported there at the expense of said county, until he shall be restored to soundness of mind, if effected in two years. The judge in such case, shall have requisite power to compel the attendance of witnesses and jurors, and shall file the certificate of physicians, taken under oath, and other papers, with a report of his proceedings and decision, with the clerk of the county, and report the facts to the supervisors, whose duty it shall be, at their next annual meeting, to raise the money requisite to meet the expenses of support accordingly.”

The above law was changed by chap. 282, Session Laws, 1850, sec. 2 of which, is as follows:

“ No person in indigent circumstances, not a pauper shall be admitted into the Asylum on the certificate of a county judge, made

under and pursuant to the provisions of the twenty-sixth section of the "Act to organize the State Lunatic Asylum, and more effectually to provide for the cure, maintenance and recovery of the insane," passed April 7th, 1842, unless such person has become insane within one year next prior to the granting of such certificate by the county judge; and it shall be the duty of said judge, when an application is made to him, pursuant to said twenty-sixth section of said act, to cause such reasonable notice thereof, and of the time and place of hearing the same, to be given to one of the superintendents of the poor of the county, chargeable with supporting such person in the Asylum, if admitted, or if such expense is chargeable to a town, or city, then to an overseer of the poor of such town, or city, as he may judge reasonable under the circumstances, and he shall then proceed to enquire as to the time when such person became insane, and shall, in addition to the requirements of said twenty-sixth section, state in his certificate, that satisfactory proof has been adduced before him, that such person became insane within a year next prior to the date of his certificate. On granting such certificate, the judge may, in his discretion, require the friends of the patient to give security to the superintendent of the poor of the county, to remove the patient from the Asylum at the end of two years, in case he does not sooner recover. When a patient, who is admitted into the Asylum on the certificate of the county judge, given pursuant to the twenty-sixth section of the aforesaid act, has remained in the Asylum two years, and has not recovered, the superintendent of the Asylum shall send notice by mail to the overseer of the poor of the town where the patient resided at the time of his admission into the Asylum, or to the county judge of the county from which he was sent, that such patient has remained two years in the Asylum and has not recovered, and that he should be removed from the Asylum, and that in case he is not removed, the expense of his support will be chargeable to the county, until he is so removed, and then such expense shall be chargeable to the county accordingly; but in every case where a patient admitted into the Asylum, pursuant to the provisions of the twenty-sixth section of said act, shall have remained there two years, and has not recovered, the managers of the Asylum may, in their discretion, cause

such patient to be returned to the county from which he came, and charge the expense of such removal to the county."

The object of this humane provision is undoubtedly to extend the benefits of this institution to persons with limited means, whose insanity is of a recent date, and therefore probably curable, and if recovered in the space of two years, restoring them to their families, and their property unimpaired, and saving them from the paralyzing influence upon their future life, of finding themselves by the loss of health and reason, reduced to beggary. Patients sent through this channel, generally supply their own clothing, and pay their traveling expenses to and from the Asylum. If not recovered in two years, the law requires that they then be removed, and if their friends do not remove them, the superintendents of the poor may have the disposal of them, or they may be sent to the county from which they came.

"Whenever there are vacancies in the Asylum, the managers may authorize the superintendent to admit, under special agreements, such recent cases as may seek admission under peculiarly afflictive circumstances, or which, in his opinion, promise speedy recovery."

Patients supported by their friends are received without any other papers than certificates from county or bank officers, or other prominent individuals, of the ability of those who become bound for their support in the Asylum, to meet all expenses incurred. The form of agreement entered into by the person or sureties who become bound for the patient admitted, is as follows:

Whereas, \_\_\_\_\_ of the town of \_\_\_\_\_, in the county of \_\_\_\_\_, an insane person, has been admitted as a patient into the New-York State Lunatic Asylum, at Utica: Now, therefore, we, the undersigned, in consideration thereof, bind ourselves to Edmund A. Wetmore, treasurer of said Asylum, to pay to him and his successors in office the sum of — dollars and — cents per week, for the care and board of said insane person so long as he shall continue in said asylum, with such extra charges as may be occasioned by his requiring more than ordinary care and at-

tention, and also to provide him with suitable clothing, and pay for all such necessary articles of clothing as shall be procured for him by the steward of the asylum, and to remove him from the asylum whenever the room occupied by him shall be required for a class of patients having preference by law; or whenever he shall be required to be removed by the managers or superintendent; and we also engage to pay all expenses incurred by the managers or superintendent in sending said patient to his friends, in case one or either of us shall fail to remove said patient when required to do so as aforesaid; and if he shall be removed at the request of his friends before the expiration of six calendar months after reception, then we engage to pay board for twenty-six weeks, unless he should be sooner cured, and also to pay, not exceeding fifty dollars, for all damages he may do to the furniture or other property of said asylum, and for reasonable charges in case of elopement, and funeral charges in case of death; such payments for board and clothing to be made semi-annually, on the first day of February and August in each year, and at the time of removal with interest on each bill, from and after the time it becomes due.

“In witness whereof we have hereunto set our names this the — day of —, in the year 1850.”

This agreement or understanding is generally signed by near relatives or other friends of the patient, or legal guardians, if any such there be, at or prior to the time of admission or subsequently, upon the deposit on the admission of the patient, of a sum of money sufficient to secure its execution.

The charges for board for this class of patients vary from three and a half to seven dollars per week, according to the circumstances of the case. Indigent persons who pay their own expenses, are received at three dollars per week.

“When an insane person in indigent circumstances shall have been sent to the asylum by his friends, who have paid his bills therein for six months, if the superintendent shall certify that he is a fit patient, and likely to be benefited by remaining in the institution, the supervisors of the county of his residence are

authorized and required, upon an application under oath in his behalf, to raise a sum of money sufficient to defray the expenses of his remaining there another year, and to pay the same to the treasurer of the asylum. And they shall repeat the same for two succeeding years, upon like application and the production of a new certificate each year, of like import from the superintendent."

As all, or nearly all insane persons are "fit" patients for a lunatic asylum, and as all such as are unable to take care of themselves would be "benefited" by being properly cared for in such an institution, therefore the law doubtless contemplates cases that are likely to result in, or approach at least to recovery, and only in such cases would we feel justified in making the certificate the law demands.

We regret to be obliged to call the attention of county officers to the following law, which is too frequently overlooked or disregarded :

"All town and county officers sending a patient to the asylum, shall, before sending them, see that he is in a state of perfect bodily cleanliness, and is comfortably clothed, and provided with suitable changes of raiment, as prescribed in the by-laws."

We request especially that patients brought to us from county houses be clean and free from vermin.

All patients require at least two suits of clothing and several changes of under garments. Most of the patients go out regularly, and consequently require clothing suited to the season. For males, great coats and boots are required in winter, shoes will answer in the summer, slippers are worn in the house. Females also need ample clothing for riding or walking in the winter. The supply should be liberal when it can be afforded. All clothing is marked with the name of the patient to whom it belongs, and much pains are taken to have it kept in good order and repair.

The removal of a patient should not be attempted while laboring under severe bodily disease, as fevers, erysipelas, large and dangerous wounds or sores, consumption, &c.

In conveying a patient to the Asylum, let it be done by force rather than by deception. Truth should not be compromised by planning a journey to Utica or a visit to the Asylum, and when there, suggesting the idea to the patient of staying, while their admission was already decided upon; nor should patients be induced to come and stay a few days to see how they like it, under the impression that they can leave at pleasure. Such treachery not only destroys confidence in friends, but also too often in us, by the seeming conspiracy to which we are supposed to be a party, than which there can scarcely be a greater barrier to improvement. The patient should be brought by an intelligent and intimate acquaintance, who will be able to give a minute history of the case, or a written account should be transmitted. In the latter should be stated the name, age, married or single, number of children, occupation, degree of education, profession of religion, habit, nativity, residence, predisposing and exciting causes; here give a minute history of the patient from youth up, temperament, peculiarities, disposition, &c.; also the cause supposed to have affected the patient immediately preceding the attack; state what relatives, near or remote, are or have been insane or peculiar; also what diseases the patient has suffered from; fits, skin diseases, dyspepsia, constipation, piles, ulcers, &c. Give the date of the attack, going back to the first noticeable disturbance, no matter how slight; also the duration of the more marked and decided symptoms, the number of attacks, (if this be not the first,) and if ever before admitted, the number of admissions to this Asylum, and how complete was the recovery in the intervals between the attacks; state fully the condition of the patient at the time of admission, whether suicidal or homicidal, whether he eats, sleeps, strikes, breaks, destroys, or is noisy, or inattentive to personal cleanliness, and whatever else may occur to the friends likely to be useful to us.

It is desirable that application for admission be always made before the patient is brought to the Asylum, in reply to which any desired information will be cheerfully furnished. All correspondence about or with patients, should be post-paid, and addressed to Dr. Gray, superintendent of the State Lunatic Asylum, Utica, N. Y.



